Message Text

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ACTION EB-11

INFO OCT-01 ARA-16 EUR-25 ISO-00 L-03 CIAE-00 COME-00

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R 260841Z SEP 74 FM AMEMBASSY MOSCOW TO SECSTATE WASHDC 2824 INFO AMEMBASSY BUENOS AIRES

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E.O. 11652: N/A

TAGS: EEWT EWWT AR UR

SUBJECT: FIRST SESSION OF JOINT ARGENTINE-SOVIET COMMISSION FOR ECONOMIC-COMMERCIAL AND SCIENTIFIC-TECHNICAL COOPERATION: ARGENTINE-USSR MARITIME AGREEMENT

REF: STATE 203718

- 1. JOINT ARGENTINE-SOVIET COMMISSION, AUTHORIZED BY AGREEMENT SIGNED MAY 1974 DURRING MOSCOW VISIT OF ARGENTINE MINISTER OF ECONOMY JOSE GELBARD, HELD FIRST MEETING IN MOSCOW, SEPTEMBER 12-18. SOVIET SIDE HEADED BY FIRST DEPUTY MINISTER OF FOREIGN TRADE IVAN SEMICHASTNOV, WHILE STATE SECRETARY FOR ENERGY HERMINIO ZBARRA WAS CHIEF ARGENTINE DELEGATE. ARGENTINE STATE SECRETARY FOR FOREIGN TRADE AND INDUSTRIAL DEVELOPMENT ERNESTO PAYERS ALSO TOOK PART IN THE SESSION. AN ARTICLE IN ECOTASS, SEPT 13, GAVE NO DETAILS OF MEETING AND NO COMMUNIQUE WAS PUBLISHED IN SOVIET PRESS AT CONCLUSION OF SESSION.
- 2. SOURCE AT ARGENTINE EMBASSY (MIGUEL GIBBONS) INFORMED US THAT RESULTS OF SESSION WERE NEGLIGIBLE, AS HAD BEEN EXPECTED FROM ARGENTINE SIDE. ONLY CONCRETE AGREEMENT WAS LIMITED OFFICIAL USE

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FOR DELIVERY OF ARGENTINE BEEF DURING REMAINDER OF 1974

IN AMOUNT TOTALING 33 MILLION POUNDS. GIBBONS ESTIMATED INCREASE OF SOVIET-ARTENTINE TRADE FOR 1974 AT DOLS 50-60 MILLION. (1973 TRADE WAS DOLS 76.7 MILLION, UP FROM DOLS 24.7 MILLION IN 1972). DELIVERIES OF SOVIET EQUIPMENT FOR SALTO GRANDE AND OTHER ENERGY PROJECTS NOT EXPECTED TO START BEFORE 1975. WHILE SOVIETS HAD HOPED GET AIR TRANSPORT AGREEMENT, AND BRIEF NOTE IN PRAVDA SEPT 13 CLAIMED ONE HAD BEEN SIGNED, GIBBONS SAID ARGENTINA WAS NOT RPT NOT INTERESTED IN ESTABLISHING DIRECT AIR LINK AND AGREEMENT WAS MERELY FOR AGENT REPRESENTATIVES IN EACH COUNTRY. ON OTHER MATTERS GIBBONS SAW NO EARLY MOVE BY ARGENTINA TO JOIN COMECON AS ASSOCIATE OR OTHERWISE.

3. GIBBONS CONFIRMED THAT ARGENTINE-SOVIET MARITIME
AGREEMENT WAS SIGNED IN AUGUST. HOWEVER, HE DID NOT HAVE COPY
AND BELIEVED THAT AGREEMENT NOT YET MADE PUBLIC. ACCORDING
TO GIBBONS AGREEMENT IS STANDARD TYPE, INCLUDING FORMULA FOR
CARGO SHARING, WHICH HE SAID ARGENTINA HAS WITH OTHER
COUNTRIES.
DUBS

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